

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-9 and 11-17 are now pending in the application. Claim 1 has been amended and Claim 10 has been cancelled without prejudice.

The Examiner has rejected Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Tsuneo (JP 2001227229) and Claims 1, 13 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,742,221 to Lu et al.

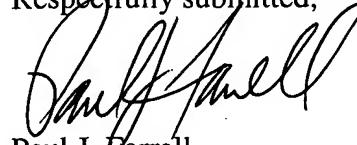
An indication that Claims 2-12 and 14-16 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims is appreciated. By this amendment, Claim 1 has been amended to include the recitation of now cancelled Claim 10, which the Examiner has found to contain allowable subject matter.

In view of the forgoing amendment and accompanying remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims pending herein, namely, Claims 1-9 and 11-17, are now in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, the Examiner may contact Applicant's attorney at the number given below.

DILWORTH & BARRESE, LLP
333 Earle Ovington Blvd.
Uniondale, New York 11553
Tel: (516) 228-8484
Fax: (516) 228-8516
PJF:las

Respectfully submitted,



Paul J. Farrell
Reg. No. 33,494
Attorney for Applicant